



### Today's Sermons

Morning: Jesus' Triumphant Entry  
Evening: Five Looks at "Thou Art the Man"

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# His church

Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 1:22, 5:23

The **church** existed in the mind of God:

Ephesians 1:3-6

The **church** was spoken of in prophecy:

Isaiah 2:2,3. Joel 2:28,29. Daniel 2:44

The **church** was promised:

Matthew 3:2, 16:18. Mark 9:11. Luke 24:46-49

The **church** was built:

----- Acts 2 -----

The **church** unique terms of entrance:

John 3:5, Mark 16:16, Acts 2:37-47, 4:12, 8:36-39

The **church** lives today and forever:

Daniel 2:44. Luke 1:33. Hebrews 12:28



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### Times of Services:

#### Sunday

Bible Study:... 10:00am  
AM Worship...11:00am  
PM Worship:...6:00pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:.....1:30pm

#### Wednesday

Bible Study:.....7:00pm

#### Radio Program

Sunday:.....7:30am  
"Back to the Bible"  
AM 580 WSKS  
93.5 FM

**We Extend A  
Warm & Cordial  
Welcome  
To All Our  
Visitors!**

## IS GOD'S WAY TOO NARROW?

Roger D. Campbell

By His great power, the Lord God brought this world into existence. By that same power, He will one day take it out of existence, destroying it with fire (II Peter 3:10,12). In the meantime, the world stands, with over 6.5 billion humans inhabiting its seven continents.

God has revealed His will for mankind in the Bible, and yes, that will is narrow. That does not suit well with some people. As you know, the ones who think God's plan is way too strict are those who are not ready to submit to it!

"I don't care too much for that preacher. He said that Jesus is the only way of salvation. That's just too narrow." What did Jesus Himself say? "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

"I think that Bible class teacher is too narrow minded. He said that most people will be lost." What did Jesus say about it? "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matt. 7:13,14).

*Continued Inside*

“That booklet I read says that Jesus only promised to build one church. Can you believe that some people are so close minded?” Again, we ask, what does the Bible say? Jesus said, “...and upon this rock will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matt. 16:18). Friend, you do not need a calculator to count up the number of churches the Master promised to build!

If you are inclined to say that God’s way is narrow, do you know what? We agree. Do you know why we agree with your conclusion? Because the Bible clearly shows that God’s revealed will is narrow. God instructed Noah to build a single ark (Gen. 6:14). That way pretty narrow was it not? God chose Jerusalem as the single location to place His name during the Old Testament era (I Kings 12:36). That, too, was narrow, would you not agree? Per God’s decree, today all spiritual blessings, including the forgiveness of sins, are found in one location — they are in the Christ (Eph. 1:3,7). Someone had to decide where salvation should be made available, and, for our good, the Lord God made that decision. End of discussion. Yes, by man’s reckoning, that comes across as a narrow plan.

All of these biblical matters that point to narrowness cause us to raise this question: should God seek out man’s input, advice, requests, and opinions before making His decrees, or is it okay for Him to “go it alone” and decide on His own what is best for mankind? Since He is the all-knowing Almighty, the first and the last, the Creator and Sustainer of all, of course He has the right to express His will to mere mortals in the language that He desires. That revealed will is just what we have in the Bible. Regardless of whether a person counts God’s word and plan as too narrow, too loose, or just what they ought to be, the following truth remains unchanged: “For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth” (Psalm 33:4).

Yes, indeed, God does know what He is talking about, and His way is always best! There is no doubt about it: the way of Jehovah is narrow. But, it is not our business to critique God’s efforts or message. No, no. Our task is to accept without question what God says, obey it, and teach its soul-saving message to others.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- May 29 – Evening Song Service
- June 3-5 – Tent Meeting in Lansing – 7:00 pm each evening
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell
- Wireless Internet Password: 94615548

## In The World, But Not Of The World

Patrick Morrison

I love the outdoors. I love sports, hunting, fishing, anything that involves being outside. One thing I really enjoy is boating on a nice calm lake or river. One must be cautious, though, because there is some danger in boating. You have to check the boat for cracks and leaks before putting it into the water. As long as the boat floats along in the water, all is fine. The problem arises when water starts getting into the boat. If you take on just a little water, albeit continually, you are in danger of sinking if you don’t stop the leak and get rid of the water. A giant leak will find you going under in no time.

The church has some similarities with boating. The church floats along in the world. The problem arises when the world starts to leak into the church. The church cannot avoid contact with the world, and to attempt such would be contrary to the purpose of the church (Lk.19:10), kind of like taking a boat out of the water and putting it away, never using it for fear it might sink. As Christians, we must make sure that the walls of the God’s spiritual house are strong and secure. We must be on the lookout for breaches in the walls where the world may creep in. If and when it does, we need to act quickly to cast out the world and plug up the leak. The purpose of the church is to change the world’s standards to fit God’s standards. When the church begins to bend toward the standards of the world, then the church is taking on water.

## JUST SUPPOSE THAT...

John Gipson

JUST SUPPOSE THAT when you were growing up you were hated by your brothers, sold into slavery, lied about, and cast into prison. Suppose you had to languish in that cell for months on end. Would you still have faith in God? Joseph did!

Just suppose that you were called by God to preach a very unpopular message... God's wrath. Suppose the people got up in arms and vented their anger at you. What if they lied about you and tried to take away your life? Would you still have faith in God? Jeremiah did!

Just suppose you were called upon to, stand before a king and rebuke him for his sin. And suppose that in obedience to the will of God you performed your task only to learn that your head would be chopped off Would you still have faith in God? John did!

Just suppose that you lived a perfect life, loved all men, always did God's will, sought to serve instead of being served, and then you were nailed to a cross to die. Would you still have faith in God? Jesus did!

THOUGHT: Just suppose the church isn't friendly, the people don't appreciate you, that no-body visits you, that you lose your health, and you go bankrupt. Would you still have faith in God...?

"...For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" -1 John 5:4